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98th Year JUNE, 1948 No. 6

CONGREGATIONAL COUNTIES

Rev. Lawrence D. Granger in costume

CALAVERAS COUNTY

by Rev. L. D. Granger

With congregation, pastor, and choir attired in old-fashioned garb, church services were conducted in "gold rush" style at the Union Congregational Church of Angels Camp on May 9 as a prelude to the "Jumping Frog Jubilee." Rev. Lawrence D. Granger and members of the congregation rode to the church in early day vehicles. Others came on horseback and tied their mounts at the hitching rack in front of the church. Visitors from other communities attended the service, which was followed by a basket lunch picnic in Utica park.

Taking part in the service was a men's quartet which sang to the accompaniment of an ancient organ. The pastor delivered a sermon on "Heaven and Hell." Gold pans were used as collection plates and a few contributions were made in gold dust and nuggets. Commenting on the service, Mr. Granger said: "I am proud to follow in the footsteps of early ministers of the Gospel who came into the Mother Lode nearly one hundred years ago. Theirs was a difficult task. There was little family life and the population was composed largely of men. Most of them were of the adventurous type who had little time for church.

Records show, however, that the early minister was eminently successful. He fitted into many places in the community life. He was frequently called upon to serve as a surgeon or doctor. In several cases he led mine disaster rescues. Singlehanded, he also helped to prevent race riots and lynching.

The early pastors were men of peace, but there are recorded instances when the minister was forced to defend his rustic pulpit with bare fists. Several early pastors were targets for both jeers and bullets from drunken brawlers in the back row."

There are seven churches in the Mother Lode district that have been designated as historical landmarks by the State of California, two of which are Congregational Churches at Mokelumne Hill and Murphys. This special gold rush service was an excellent prelude to the Centennial Celebration of the Conference in 1949.

MODOC COUNTY

by Rev. William M. Case

Modoc County is looking up in Kingdom program and progress. The coming of Rev. Clifford S. Higby to the growing field in Surprise Valley with churches at Cedarville and Eagleville, is proving most providential. Mrs. Higby is a very talented and efficient helper to her husband, being a former Y.W.C.A. secretary in China.

The Alturas Church, under the leadership of Dr. and Mrs. William Moll Case, has enjoyed a happy year. The sanctuary has been rebuilt into a chancel arrangement with altar equipped with candelabra and a lovely cross. This was the work of Gerald Snavely who was pastor in Alturas for only six week in 1946 and has since gone to China. Adult and junior choirs directed by Mrs. Case take part in the Sunday services. Recently Mrs. Case was awarded a plaque by the Mayor of Alturas in recognition of her place of leadership as "First Lady of Alturas."

The territory surrounding the County Seat, Alturas, at present offers only Likely as an out-post station. Here the people under the leadership of Mrs. Ed Richardson, daughter of Mrs. Ivey McGarva, long the most potent factor here, have redecorated the church without, as well as within. When the much needed addition of a room for primary and social activities can be added they will have a fairly good plant. The other points such as Adin, Canby, and Davis Creek will require time and further experience before they can be integrated into the larger parish of Modoc County.

TRINITY COUNTY

by Rev. William F. Keeney

Trinity Church serves a vast area of Northern California. In the 1890's three Congregational Churches were organized and built here. One of these is completely inactive at present. One has no resident church membership, but serves as a Grange Hall and a community meeting place for boys' club activities. Trinity Church in Weaverville remains active. There is a substantial mission work being carried on in Hayfork under the guidance of a minister who has been working there for a period of about ten years. This, along with various other Holiness Groups which come and go, and a small Roman Catholic Church in Weaverville, constitute the ministry of Christ for some 7,500 people.

In this connection an interesting comparison was suggested by Lloyd Lorbeer at the time of his visit here. In India it is estimated that there is one medical doctor to about 7,000 people. In the United States we expect to find one doctor for every three to five hundred people. Trinity County, having one medical doctor for the county, is to be compared with India according to the population ratio.

Many of the hardships of the frontier are still with us here. The adventures of frontier speculation are still existent in the thought and attitudes of the people. The presence of lone prospectors and the fact that industrial ventures are forced to rework land and streams previously hand mined by Chinese labor, indicate that mining for free gold is of waning import. There is a wholesome attempt to establish a measure of subsistence farming, but the possibilities for agricultural development are limited by the topography. The great hope for economic stability lies at present with the development of recreation and with the stability of the lumber industry. The latter is being developed under the guidance of the Forestry Service and the effort to establish the practice of planning and harvesting timber is producing stable long range projects.

In short, our problems are those of Northern California caught in the turmoil of growth and transition, but to these must be added the local factor of primitive frontier institutions. The most encouraging factor in the work here is the consecrated effort of a small group who are alert to the problems and possibilities for development of a forceful impact of Christian Faith upon the period of change and transition. Religion in America has always been most potent on the growing edge of the frontier where institutions and culture patterns are in process of being formed.

We look forward to a demonstration of our work in Christian Education at the county fair this year. This will include pictures of our outdoor worship chapel capturing the beauty and rapture of our setting in the Coastal Range for the glory of dignified worship.

TAKE THIS SUMMER TOUR

Some splendid Christian work is being done in three "Congregational Counties" in Northern California: Calaveras, Modoc, and Trinity. We suggest that you take your family in the auto and make a tour of these centers of Congregationalism this summer. Start out via Stockton and visit Angels Camp and Murphys, thence over Ebbetts Pass, (easy grades) to the eastern side of the Sierras. Go north on U.S. 395 to Alturas, and then west on U.S. 299 through Redding to Weaverville. Complete the circuit with a visit to our church in Eureka on the Coast, and then return home via the Redwood Highway. You will find good motels and public campgrounds throughout this circuit.

CENTENNIAL

The opening guns of the Congregational Centennial Celebration for 1949 will be fired at the annual meeting of the Conference in San Mateo, October 22-24. Formal announcement of the plans for the Centennial will be made at that time, and there will be a spot on the program for a preview of what will happen during the 100th anniversary year.

In the meantime, careful preparations are being made in the Conference office by the staff. Rev. William W. Meyer is busy on the first filmstrip, showing pictures of early churches, new church extension projects, and Cazadero action scenes. Mr. Vernon Long of Berkeley will do the photographic work for this project, and a lecture-script will accompany each set of pictures. These will be available to local churches in the autumn.

A letter has gone out from the Conference office to certain laymen and ministers of Northern California asking them to be members of the "Centennial Committee of One Hundred." This committee will have a representative from every church in the Conference, and this person will be responsible for promoting the celebration in his or her own church. In addition to this large group, there is a smaller committee which will be called the "Centennial Planning Committee." The members are: Vere V. Loper, Fred R. Morrow, C. R. Van Buskirk, James H. Price, Robert Inglis, Nels Sanderson, Mrs. W. B. Buckham, Mrs. E. B. Kientz, Mrs. R. A. Fuller, Torrance Phelps, Herbert C. Gans, Peirce Coombes, Harold T. Avery, Mrs. Elmer W. Benedict, Scott Haymond, John G. Neukom, Ernest W. Houlding, Duncan Olmstead, Harley H. Gill, William W. Meyer, and Sidney H. Buckham. A chairman of this committee will be elected at their first meeting in September.

Superintendent Harley H. Gill began contacting some of our church members in the Conference on May 20 concerning special gifts for the centennial. Since that date he has been having conferences with Congregational people up and down the state. The "Century Club" of $100 gifts has been started by Rev. William W. Meyer, and solicitation will be continued through the summer and autumn months. General supervision of the centennial is in the hands of Rev. Sidney H. Buckham, Director of Extension Work.

The Centennial Planning Committee will appreciate suggestions and original ideas for the carrying out of this great project. If you have a "hunch" please write to Mr. Buckham at the Conference office. We would like to have historical material of special interest concerning any of our local churches.

NEW ARRIVAL

Congratulations to Rev. and Mrs. Clayton H. Gill, upon the arrival of Martha Pearl on May 11. We send our best wishes to the grandparents also, Dr. and Mrs. Harley H. Gill.

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MODESTO PROJECT

After a year of careful planning and preparation, the Conference has purchased property in northern Modesto for a new Congregational Church. The church site is at the corner of College Avenue and Orangeburg Street, and is adjacent to the new Tully School, which will begin construction this summer. There is a house on the property and three acres of vineyard. It is planned to utilize this entire area for church buildings, playground, and auto parking.

Rev. Elmo D. Wolfe of Benicia resigned his pastorate on May 30, and will be the pastor for this new Modesto church. He will move into the parsonage on September 1 and begin his work by organizing a Sunday School. Church services will begin in the autumn, and it is hoped that the first unit of the church plant can be constructed soon. In the meantime, the minister's house will be used for the church program.

A "Sponsoring Committee" for the Modesto high potential project was appointed by the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors of the Conference on May 18. The members of this committee are: Dr. Stanley U. North, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hughes, Rev. Alvin P. Hilgemann, Dr. Hoyt Gant, Mrs. Lester Johnson, Mr. Ray G. Carlson, Mr. C. R. Van Buskirk, Rev. Noel J. Breed, Rev. Robert Inglis, Rev. Clayton H. Gill, Rev. William W. Meyer, Rev. Harley H. Gill, and Rev. Sidney H. Buckham. This committtee will work with the minister, Rev. Elmo D. Wolfe, in planning the program of the church until it becomes an independent unit, and is taken over by the local group.

The funds for the purchase of the Modesto property were provided by the Congregational Church Building Society, and the purchase was consummated on May 18. The development of the Modesto church will follow the general procedure of our high potential project at Sierra-Arden in Sacramento.

M.E.M. CONFERENCE

The annual M.E.M. Conference (Missionary Education Movement) will be held at Asilomar, August 6 to 11. Leaders will include Pattie Lee Coghill, Dr. Willis Lamott, and Dr. Hugh Vernon White. It is hoped that a number of Congregational representatives will attend this important inter-denominational gathering. For further information, please write to Mrs. R. W. Blosser, 222 Moncada Way, San Francisco 12. The study topic for this year will be: "China."

How About A New Look?

A "new look" at the totals will show a decrease in apportionment giving for May, 1948, over the same month in 1947 of $784.18. We need your help!

	App't Jan. 11 to May 31, 1947	App't Jan. 11 to May 31, 1948	C.W.-V.R. 1948
Adin	$ 11.75	———	———
Alameda	623.65	488.46	182.09
Alturas	23.77	116.96	19.00
Angels Camp	50.00	50.00	64.35
Antioch	57.14	93.13	20.00
Auburn	82.45	128.75	53.75
Benicia	105.00	52.00	———
Berkeley			
Arlington	21.48	61.94	73.53
First	4383.77	3366.03	3344.47
North	304.80	372.00	165.00
Northbrae	375.60	———	———
South	284.03	169.42	195.81
Campbell	———	120.00	20.00
Cedarville	33.75	33.75	———
Cloverdale	23.91	67.42	———
Cotati	30.00	43.25	25.00
Crockett	43.53	28.60	———
Dinuba	———	.66	———
Elk Grove	19.00	14.25	14.25
Etna	6.90	5.89	45.22
Eureka	370.36	227.30	217.14
Fairfax	5.05	37.50	———
Ferndale	82.70	76.05	256.26
Fresno			
First	365.00	350.00	799.25
Japanese	25.00	25.00	———
Glen Ellen	50.00	50.00	8.00
Guerneville	27.12	25.00	62.75
Hayward	150.00	———	320.00
Kenwood	17.31	14.18	10.00
Likely	15.00	———	———
Lodi			
Ebenezer	41.80	———	114.00
First	1705.98	1652.00	286.01
Loomis	100.00	100.00	2.50
Martinez	207.20	546.74	313.92
Murphys	100.00	100.00	25.00
Niles	———	50.00	23.65
Oakland			
First	2703.63	2200.00	1126.99
Fruitvale	15.00	72.40	———
Japanese	———	80.00	24.24
New Pilgrim	30.34	56.00	56.00
Plymouth	861.87	691.50	413.80
Orinda	346.15	216.74	180.07
Oroville	374.30	373.10	137.33
Pacific Grove	119.10	100.00	———
Palo Alto	1500.00	600.00	675.25
Paradise	272.00	400.00	36.34
Parlier	10.00	20.00	———
Penngrove	41.87	23.68	———
Pescadero	20.00	10.00	———
Petaluma	300.00	235.00	———
Pittsburg	114.98	82.85	55.15
Port Chicago	25.00	64.92	5.40
Porterville	565.80	600.00	400.00
Redwood City	760.59	423.56	227.73
Reedley	15.00	15.00	———
Rio Vista	85.00	50.00	———
Ripon	66.75	86.19	16.66
Sacramento			
Pioneer	682.50	690.00	1000.00
Sierra Arden	113.00	51.48	1.00
Salida	52.00	40.10	———
San Carlos	215.00	250.00	127.50
San Francisco			
Bethany Msn. Park	104.10	60.90	18.25
Calvary	30.00	———	———
First	396.89	189.38	15.37
Ocean View	50.00	50.00	49.00
Park Presidio	155.00	154.97	———
Sanger	11.04	———	71.71
San Jose	420.00	420.00	350.00
San Leandro	36.46	66.35	———
San Mateo	30.00	625.00	1822.67
San Rafael	66.00	10.00	———
Santa Cruz	310.00	89.00	———
Santa Rosa	78.95	78.00	———
Saratoga	205.55	289.81	29.53
Sebastopol	131.41	150.22	61.97
Sonoma	49.66	60.55	———
Soquel	88.00	90.55	———
Stockton	500.27	412.54	346.83
Suisun	68.48	50.00	80.00
Sunnyvale	———	39.07	10.00
Tulare	254.58	270.00	———
Weaverville	50.00	50.00	———
Woodside	11.50	11.50	51.69
Reno	304.28	325.19	20.00
Miscellaneous	2340.36	1446.58	90.47
	$24725.46	$20838.41	$14161.90

Honorary Degree at P.S.R.

The honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon Sidney H. Buckham at the 81st Commencement of the Pacific School of Religion. The exercises were held at the University Christian Church in Berkeley on Friday, June 11. Mr. Buckham was presented to President Ronald Bridges by Prof. Ralph D. Hyslop.

Planning group for Christian World Mission, Cazadero, May 5 and 6.

OUR CHRISTIAN WORLD MISSION

In the interest of promoting the Christian World Mission of Congregational Churches in 1949, a group of ministers and laymen gathered at Cazadero on May 5 and 6. As a result of this planning session, all of the churches of the Conference will be visited by district leaders before June 20. There will be district rallies held in various areas of the Conference next September, as indicated in the following schedule:

Wednesday, September 15—Fresno District.

Thursday, September 16—Stockton District.

Friday, September 17—Sacramento District.

Monday, September 20—Bay District, San Francisco.

Tuesday, September 21—East Bay District.

Wednesday, September 22—Upper Bay District.

Thursday, September 23—San Jose District.

Friday, September 24—Santa Cruz District.

Monday, September 27—Santa Rosa District.

Wednesday, September 29—Eureka District.

Friday, October 1 — Weaverville District.

Sunday, October 3—Alturas District.

Each Congregational minister in the Conference is being asked to preach a series of sermons on "Stewardship" during the month of October. The Christian World Mission campaign will be carried out in connection with the Every-Member-Canvass in each local church next fall.

Those attending the planning session at Cazadero were: Christian Martin, Hagop A. Chakmakjian, Clayton H. Gill, C. R. Van Buskirk, Torrance Phelps, William M. Case, William F. Keeney, Benton S. Gaskell, T. Davis Preston, James Yates, Donald F. Gaylord, Ralph V. Conard, Robert W. Inglis, Richard C. Norberg, Eugene V. Haynes, William W. Meyer, Sidney H. Buckham, Homer A. Schwarz, M. J. Nikkel.

Meals were served for these hungry delegates by Mrs. Eugene Haynes, Mrs. Sidney H. Buckham, and Mrs. Torrance Phelps.

New Plymouth House Director

Mr. Kenneth Kinnear of Wilmette, Illinois, has accepted the call of the Northern California Congregational Conference to be the Director of Plymouth House. Mr. Kinnear is graduating in June from the Chicago Theological Seminary and will be ordained as a Congregational minister after his arrival in Berkeley. He will devote his full time to the leadership of the student program centering in Plymouth House.

The director is a graduate of Albion College in Michigan. In the course of his education, Mr. Kinnear has had a wide type of experience during his summers and in connection with his studies. One summer was spent in Y.M.C.A. work. He has been a youth leader, and associate pastor in two Chicago Congregational Churches—South Shore Community and Irving Park Immanuel. He spent a summer in a "Students in Industry" project to broaden his background and experience. His graduate work was in the field of sociology of religion, Christian ethics, and psychology. While doing boys' work in the Detroit Y.M.C.A., he preached in a circuit of country churches.

La Selva Beach

On Mother's Day, May 9, the new Congregational Sunday School at La Selva Beach got under way, with 20 pupils and a staff of 4 teachers. La Selva Beach is 6 miles north of Watsonville, and has been allocated to our Conference by the Comity Commission. The Sunday School meets in the Community Center, and is under the general supervision of Rev. T. Davis Preston, our pastor at Soquel.

Mr. E. L. Spaulding, a resident of La Selva Beach, says that the Jacoby Co., which developed the tract, is ready to give lots for a chapel. He tells us that two families have already made pledges toward the construction of a church building. Rev. William W. Meyer is planning to have a Vacation Bible School at this promising location during the summer.

MRS. JULIA SARGENT VISHER

Mrs. Julia Sargent Visher, sister of the late Rev. Benjamin F. Sargent, passed away at Conner, Montana, March 23, 1948, at the age of 91. While living in Berkeley she was an active member of the North Church and is remembered by many with deep affection.

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES ON THE JOB

SAN FRANCISCO, FIRST. Rev. James Gordon Gilkey, Jr., has accepted the call to become pastor of the First Congregational Church at San Francisco on September 1. Mr. Gilkey is well qualified for this important position. He is a graduate of Harvard University and Union Theological Seminary "cum laude." He has been the minister of the Plymouth Congregational Church of Utica, New York, for the past four years. He was voted the "most useful citizen of Utica" by the Junior Chamber of Commerce of that city for 1947. During the war he served as a chaplain in the United States Navy. A planning committee has been appointed at First Church, with Mr. Roy Sorenson as chairman, to outline a program of improvement and progress for the church under its new leadership. Rev. James H. Woodruff, a member of the church staff, is carrying on the work with marked success until Mr. Gilkey arrives. All departments of the church have shown progress under his leadership.

SANTA CRUZ. Action has been taken on the formal resignation submitted Sunday, May 2, by Dr. Heber St. Clair Mahood, pastor of the First Congregational Church for the last 19 years. The resignation is to take effect September 30. Dr. Mahood's letter, read at the communion service, follows announcement made some months ago by the pastor when he informed his congregation of his desire to resign. Dr. Mahood, who has served the ministry 34 years, indicated his resignation was submitted to permit him to retire from active service. He will continue to make his home in Santa Cruz.

BENICIA. Rev. Elmo D. Wolfe read his resignation from this church on May 30. He is to become the minister of the new "high potential" Congregational Church in Modesto, on September 1. Mr. Wolfe will attend the General Council at Oberlin in June, and he will be on the faculty of the State Pilgrim Fellowship Camp at Cazadero in August. He has given outstanding community leadership in Benicia, and has built the church up to new highs in interest and attendance.

REDWOOD CITY. Rev. Roland G. de Vries, pastor of this church since 1945, read his resignation recently. Mr. de Vries plans to take further theological training and prepare himself for teaching. He will leave Redwood City on July 1. He has given the church splendid, constructive leadership, and he will be sorely missed in the community. Mr. de Vries is a brother of Maurice L. de Vries, who is pastor of our Oroville church.

CAMPBELL. Rev. Robert L. Carlson, pastor of this church for the past three years, submitted his resignation on May 2. Mr. Carlson will go East for further study in the autumn. He has done excellent work in Campbell, and his resignation was accepted with deep regret by the members of the church. A substantial fund for a new parsonage has been accumulated in the church treasury.

GLEN ELLEN. Mr. Sam Bowman has resigned the pastorate of this church after serving as its minister for one year. Mr. Bowman has not completed his seminary work for the B.D. degree, and he has resigned for continued study.

ORINDA. A new reed organ was dedicated at a special service on Sunday, May 2. Mr. Harold Hawley, F.A.G.O., was the guest organist. The following quotation is reprinted from the Orinda church calendar: "This organ is dedicated to one who looked at life with wide outlook, loving its fullness and beauty, yet facing its shortcomings and loss with steadfast calm. He gave of himself, his courage, and his means, quietly and without stint wherever and whenever there was need of help or understanding. His strength was in the wonder of sunlit hills and green valleys. May the music of this organ bring such strength and peace into the hearts of those who worship here. May it deepen our sense of God and His nearness, and give assurance of His power to help us in our day to day problems of living."

SAN MATEO. "On many occasions the Church Council has discussed favorably the recommendation of the Garden Committee that the corner lot at Ellsworth and Tilton, formerly a rose garden, be paved and converted into a space for off-the-street parking. It seems that we should take steps to make this a reality during the coming summer. We are to entertain the Congregational Conference in October, with hundreds of ministers and delegates coming here from all over Northern California. Not only will parking be a problem then, but we want our plant and grounds to be in top condition."

FRESNO, FREE CROSS. Rev. Benjamin H. Kissler has resigned the pastorate of this great church to take effect June 1. He has been elected a field secretary for the German-speaking churches of the Middle West area and will live and have headquarters in Denver. Mr. Kissler has served as moderator of the German Conference and has been a tower of strength to our whole fellowship in the Fresno area. Northern California will miss him.

SAN CARLOS. All church boards and committees now meet on the same night of the week. There is a joint session at the beginning with worship, and at the close with the sharing of plans. Between four and five hundred thousand people use the plant at least once a month. Twenty-six new members were received on Maundy Thursday and on Easter morning 700 people were in the service at the theater.

AUBURN. Gold Rush Centennial Sunday was observed in this Mother Lode Church on May 16. There was a special combined service for the Sunday School and Church at 10 a.m., with children and adults attending in old costumes. The Auburn Church was founded in 1875. Rev. Lucius F. Reed is the pastor.

LOOMIS. A new electric organ was dedicated at a special evening service on May 2. Organ selections were played by Allen Bacon, who was assisted by Christine Klamroth, soprano. The program included numbers on the organ by Handel, Bach, Gounod, Verdi, Schubert, and Debussy.

SARATOGA. Twenty-seven members were added to the Congregational roll in the past year, according to the report made at the Santa Clara Association.

FAIRFAX. We quote from the parish paper the following program for Children's Day: "June 15 is the date, and on that Sunday there will be one service at 10:45 in the church. Everybody in the Sunday school will come upstairs and each class will be responsible for a part of the program. Then after the service, we will all go down to the Fairfax Park for a picnic and games. Each family will bring a basket lunch, and drinks and dessert will be provided. There will be an old-fashioned ball game at which men, women and those able to play the game as it should be played will have a whack. There will be sack races, relay races, stunts, contests, and all sorts of surprises. Committees are now being formed and are getting to work."

SAN FRANCISCO, PARK PRESIDIO. We reprint the following from the church paper for the month of May: "'Men of Distinction'—Sixty-five percent of those incarcerated in San Quentin are here through their use of alcohol. I feel this to be true and make this estimate from my long years of observation and experience in this institution," Warden Clinton T. Duffy. Presiding Judge H. C. Kaufman of the San Francisco Superior Court recently announced that 75 percent of his criminal cases could be traced to alcohol. Rev. Robert W. Moon is the minister of this church.

OAKLAND, NEW PILGRIM. The church has given a unanimous call to Mr. George W. Lindsay, who is now serving the Congregational church at Cloverdale. Mr. Lindsay will begin his work at New Pilgrim this summer. During the interim between ministers, the church has been served by Rev. Thomas E. Watt. On May 2, seven new members were received into the church, and there were four baptisms.

BERKELEY, NORTH. North Church is making final plans for the building of Fellowship House which will be begun in the near future. On May 12, the Church enjoyed a Family Night dinner and program. Rev. John Wills Rahill, noted Congregational minister and authority on Shakespeare, gave a most enjoyable and instructive talk on "Shakespeare and His Religion."

CLOVERDALE. The members of the church heard with regret the resignation of Mr. George W. Lindsay on May 9. One member of the church has written to the Conference office as follows: "We are sorry to lose Mr. Lindsay. I think that he has done a very fine work, and we are better in every way for his having been here." Mr. Lindsay has been a student at Pacific School of Religion during his stay at Cloverdale.

TULARE. Accoustical tiling has been placed on the ceiling of the social hall and the floor has been refinished, making the room quieter and more attractive. Rev. Clayton H. Gill took the lead among the churches in securing relief for unemployed agricultural workers. The churches of the community contributed $1500, of which this church gave $300.

PACIFIC GROVE. The young people of the church hold a prayer meeting every morning on the high school athletic field to interest other young people. Four organ concerts presenting the finest organists available have been given recently. The women's organizations have been united into one.

LODI, 1st. One hundred forty-five guests were seated at the annual Mother and Daughter banquet on the evening of May 7. Men of the congregation served the dinner and arranged a program. On the evening of May 19 the Woman's Association was hostess at a very enjoyable fellowship dinner. Guests were members of the women's groups of the Ebenezer Congregational and Zion Reformed churches. Dr. Gail Cleland was present and spoke on the subject, "Korea, The Hot Spot of the Far East." With the assistance of Mr. Lawton Harris, of the College of the Pacific, the Youth Planning committee has begun a series of Saturday evening "fun nights" for the young people.

SAN FRANCISCO, OCEAN VIEW. The work of the church in all its departments has shown progress. Four adult members were admitted recently, making a total of 30 for the first quarter of this year. A "Housewarming" party was held by the church to thank the 16 men and three women for their constant and skillful work in the renovation of the social hall. New choir robes have been purchased. A gift of flooring was received from the Pabco company. In the near future the church building fund will be organized and preliminary plans formulated.

OAKLAND, JAPANESE. On Mother's Day, gardenia corsages were presented to 21 mothers. All of them attended either the Sunday School or Church or both, and most of them stayed for the luncheon prepared by Agnes and Grayce Mori, Beatrice Mizote, Dorothy Harada, Mrs. T. Nakayama and Mrs. N. Ozaki. Fathers, sons and daughters joined the party and made it a very enjoyable and pleasant occasion.

SALIDA. Mr. Albert F. King, who has served this church as pastor since 1945, has accepted a call to the Congregational Church of Beaverton, Oregon. Mr. King has done outstanding work in Salida, and the church has thrived under his leadership. A pulpit committee has been appointed to find a successor to Mr. King.

PITTSBURG. The Ladies Auxiliary had "A Rummage Sale" in April which netted $336.00. The Auxiliary bought new choir robes and a special dedication service was held at the morning worship. The dedication service was written by the minister, Rev. Elmer W. Benedict.

High Sierra Fans

In the Northern California Congregational Conference there is a small fraternity of mountain-lovers among the ministers, who will be "hitting the trail" again this summer. They are: Fred Morrow, Elmo Wolfe, Elmer Benedict, Robert Inglis, Augustine Jones, George R. Tolson, and Sidney Buckham. If you want information about the High Sierras, write to any of these men.

PACIFIC SCHOOL of RELIGION
PREPARES for the RELIGIOUS VOCATION
BERKELEY CALIFORNIA

WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

Mrs. Ralph D. Hyslop, Correspondent

The Federation met on Thursday, May 20, at First Church, Oakland. Plans for the summer and fall were of especial interest.

Summer Conferences. General Council, Oberlin, June 17-24, Mrs. R. A. Fuller to be our official representative. Institute of International Relations, Mills College, June 20-29, Mrs. G. Green to represent us. M.E.-M., Asilomar, August 6-11, Mrs. P. M. Hancher and two others going from the Federation. It is expected that many other women will be attending these meetings in addition to the regular representatives.

Fall Plans. The announcement was made that the fall rallies will be omitted this year in favor of the Christian Mission meetings, as members of all churches will be participating in these.

Rev. Robert Inglis gave us more details about the plans for the centennial celebration of the founding of the first Congregational church, in San Francisco, in 1849. There will be two aspects of this. One will be the holding of celebrations in every local church. The collection of relics, pictures, slides, for this purpose is already under way. There will also be a special celebration in the Mother Lode country with Congregationalists from all over the state meeting there.

In the second place we will gather a birthday gift for the State Conference of $100,000. Of this, $30,000 will be for Cazadero, to provide swimming pool, road, dining room, manager's house, etc. Any who have been there know how much this will add to this already popular spot. The remainder of the fund will go to the establishment of the new churches and centers which Rev. Sidney Buckham described to us and which are such a vital part of our program.

The national Boards will also be coming to us with plans requiring increased giving and devotion. Over and above this, we want to do our part and hope that the women will give courageous leadership to this program.

SECRETARIES' REPORTS

Thank Offering. Mrs. James Cooper said that packets and information will be ready for the first fall meetings. This year the plan is to look at Puerto Rico as a whole rather than just Ryder Memorial. So she would like any points of interest or sources of information about Puerto Rico to go into promotional material. She suggested that the Thank Offering be kept before the people by church bulletins showing what your amount, even if small, may mean in terms of the total contribution. We were also asked to think about the possibility of joining the other women of our denomination, by making our offering a part of the Woman's Gift, as they both serve almost the same purpose.

Friendly Service. Mrs. F. Brown reported that of some 91 quotas, 29 have been heard from with both volume and value a surprise.

Literature. Mrs. S. Siegrist wanted it known that in the file of First Church, Oakland, are many of the older study books and others that will be of help in program building. You are free to borrow them by writing your name on the book's card and placing it in the file.

Home Field. Mrs. H. H. Gill told of the work with the Indians at Elbow Wood, N. Dakota. Clothing is sent to them to be sold at cost, and they are trying to get enough land of their own through Washington.

Interdenominational. Mrs. R. A. Fuller reported on the very successful tea for Mrs. Harper Sibley, who made the challenging statement, "We have the financial leadership of the world, but have we the moral leadership to go with it?"

The new address of the Church World Service is 21 W. 11th St., San Francisco, and the splendid cooperation of the Oakland drive for clothing was particularly mentioned.

We were privileged to have a few words from Mrs. Dennis Goodsell. She had on display a poster on Morning Star VI, a project very close to her heart. She told of the very severe storm through which the boat went near the end of the journey, and the consequent increased expenses. Mrs. C. Marliave later added to this, that the 14-year-old Alice Hanlon, on board, at the end of the trip said, "I don't see why everyone doesn't want to be a missionary."

Mrs. E. B. Kientz made a special request for the fund for the Jeep Station Wagon for Miss Florence C. Malcolm in Africa. At present she travels by hammock, which means the necessity of a whole caravan to accompany her and a maximum of 25 miles a day covered. Her other main difficulty is rats, which are found in even the best of huts. A jeep station wagon would not only eliminate the caravan, but give her a place to sleep free from rats. Offerings were taken for this purpose at Association meetings, a total of $560 having been collected thus far. If your women haven't contributed to save Miss Malcolm time, energy, and nerves, money may be sent to the Conference office. This will not count on the apportionment but is a gift of love because she is doing our work.

Between the Book Ends. Mrs. S. Siegrist presented an interesting program which she suggested as an idea for local groups to stimulate reading. Two women served as bookends, and standing between them were the "books" which were brought to life by a brief review. The reviewers in this case were Mrs. Elmo Wolfe, Mrs. H. S. Clewett, Mrs. J. H. Price, Mrs. C. Marliave, Mrs. H. H. Gill, Mrs. P. M. Hancher, and Miss Helen Perkins. Recommended books which have not been previously mentioned were: **"The Choice is Always Ours"** (ed. by Dorothy Phillips), an anthology of readings for help in making our life more abundant; **"Just and Durable Parents"** (J. L. Ellinwood), a saga of family life, wise, practical, and witty; **"Rising Through the Dust"** (Archie R. Crouch), a history of Christianity in China; **"Checkerboard,"** a novel by Nevil Shute; **"Behind the Silken Curtain"** (Bartley Crum), report of the Anglo-American committee of inquiry on the Palestine question; **"Dauntless Women"** (Winifred Mathews), the story of seven missionary women; **"The Years of the Locust"** (Loula G. Erdman), the story of three days just before and after death.

Announcement was made of the resignation of Mrs. C. A. Stanley as a director and on the Nominating Committee. Mrs. Stephen C. Peabody will replace her in the position of director and Mrs. Sidney H. Buckham has been made a member of the Nominating Committee.

Family Camps

by James H. Woodruff

Does God speak to you in the great out of doors? Do you like time to develop friendships with other Christians? Do you like to live together as a family, with its members of various ages pooling experience? Do you like to grow through association with interesting persons of wide experience, trained in special schools? Do you like a vacation of low cost, yet of unforgettable memories? If your answer to these questions is "yes," then by all means register for a week or more of Family Camp at Cazadero.

As a member of a Congregational Church in Northern California you owe it to yourself to become acquainted with the 800 acres of rolling, wooded, Russian River countryside owned by us all. An old ranch house and more recently-built cabins provide separate rooms. Many use the rooms for dressing and sleep outside on the porch or under the stars. A common dining hall with the song of birds and the sight of trees and growing plants all about makes mealtime take on a new meaning. Vespers, with its distinctive thought of God and the campfire circle, give a lift to all.

There are three Family Camps this summer: July 24 to July 31, July 31 to August 7, and August 7 to August 14. You may come for any one or stay for all three. All members of the family are welcome, from baby aged 3 months to grandfather and grandmother.

Rev. Henry C. Warber will be director the first week, Rev. James H. Woodruff the second week, and Rev. Ralph V. Conard the third week. The charge covering the week for adults is $16.00, for children $11.00.

Send in your registration today!

OBERLIN DELEGATES

Delegates: Rev. Harley H. Gill, Mrs. James H. Price, Mrs. R. A. Fuller, Rev. H. A. Kartozian, Rev. Herbert Dimock, Rev. Torrance Phelps, Rev. Elmo D. Wolfe, Rev. H. S. Mahood, Mr. Robert Inglis, Prof. Ralph D. Hyslop, Rev. Ralph V. Conard, Mrs. Charles Mosure, Mr. Ralph H. Anderson, Rev. Jonathan Weber, Rev. Lawrence D. Granger, Mrs. Benton S. Gaskell, Mr. Otis Vaughn, Mr. N. F. Sanderson, Rev. Maurice L. de Vries. **Additional Attendants:** Rev. Vere V. Loper, Mrs. Scott Haymond, Mrs. Harley H. Gill, Rev. James H. Price, Rev. and Mrs. Chas. A. Stanley, and President Ronald Bridges.

Oak Park, Sacramento

Rev. and Mrs. Theodore Dunlap will arrive in Sacramento from New York on June 15, to begin work at the Oak Park Church. Mr. Dunlap has just graduated from Union Theological Seminary, and he comes to our Conference with excellent recommendations. The Dunlaps will reside at 2560 26th Street in Sacramento.

The Oak Park Church has been carrying on since last October without a minister. They have a fine Sunday School, and a Women's Society. Sunday services are being held temporarily at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Luvater Leftridge, 3102 Sacramento Blvd. This new church has been represented at all of our Conference gatherings this spring, and we hope that it will be admitted to the Conference as a Congregational Church at the annual meeting in San Mateo next October. The project has been promoted by the Director of Extension Work, Rev. Sidney H. Buckham.

OUR 30 OLDEST CHURCHES

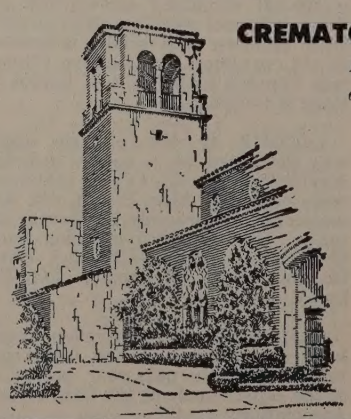
Antioch	1865
Auburn	1875
Benicia	1866
Berkeley First	1874
Cloverdale	1869
Eureka	1859
Ferndale	1875
Grass Valley	1853
Hayward	1865
Lodi	1872
Martinez	1874
Murphys	1866
Oakland First	1861
Oroville	1857
Petaluma	1854
Redwood City	1862
Rio Vista	1869
Sacramento	1849
San Francisco First	1849
San Jose	1875
San Mateo	1864
Santa Cruz	1857
Saratoga	1873
Sebastopol	1889
Sonoma	1871
Soquel	1868
Stockton	1865
Suisun	1876
Tulare	1874
Reno, Nevada	1871

On His 90th Birthday

When sweetmeats come in one big lump
It gives the ego stock a jump.
If one enjoys inflated worth
Just let him celebrate his birth.
I didn't know I was so smart
Till valued friends spoke heart to heart.
And now I'm sure that every friend
Will stick to me till the end.
Your messages by rail and air
Have made of me a billionaire.
Kind friend, you boosted all you could
And now I surely must make good.

—Henry Stauffer

CHAPEL OF THE CHIMES



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